

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 11-13, 16, 18, 19, 21, 26, 28, 29, and 31-33 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for reducing power consumption in a mobile communication device having a backlight illumination unit powered by a voltage source, the apparatus comprising:

~~converting means adapted to provide~~providing a constant voltage output;

~~enabling means adapted to turn~~turning the converting means off and on; and

~~switching means adapted to apply~~applying one of the output of the voltage source output and the constant voltage output to the backlight illumination unit.

2. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~further comprising~~
~~comparing means adapted to~~wherein the enabling means:

~~determines whether the output of the voltage source~~ output is at least a predetermined value; and wherein the

~~turns the~~ converting means ~~is turned off and~~ controls the switching means to apply ~~output of the voltage source~~ output ~~is applied to the backlight illumination unit~~ when the ~~output of the voltage source~~ output is at least the predetermined value and turns the converting means ~~is turned on and~~ applies the constant voltage output ~~is applied to the backlight illumination unit~~ when the output of the voltage source output is below the predetermined value.

3. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising scaling means ~~adapted to divide~~dividing the output of the voltage source output by a designated factor.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the designated factor is approximately 50%.

5. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the ~~comparing~~ enabling means converts the ~~output of the voltage source~~ output to digital data and determines if the digital data corresponds to the predetermined value.

6. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the ~~comparing~~ enabling means comprises an analog-digital converter.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the converting means is one of a charge-pump and a DC-DC converter.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a second enabling means ~~adapted to turning~~ adapted to turning the backlight illumination unit off independent of the converting means.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the second enabling means comprises a transistor.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the switching means comprises a FET.

11. (Currently amended) An apparatus for reducing power consumption in a mobile communication device having a display, the apparatus comprising:

a voltage source;

a backlight illumination unit ~~adapted to illuminate~~ illuminating the display;

a converting unit ~~adapted to provide~~ providing a constant voltage to the backlight illumination unit;

a switching unit ~~adapted to bypassing~~ applying the output of the voltage source output to the backlight illumination unit; and

a controller adapted to ~~determine~~determining the output voltage of the voltage source, turning the converting unit off and on, and enable ~~enabling~~ and disable ~~disabling~~ the switching unit such that one of the voltage source output and the constant voltage is applied to the backlight illumination unit.

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the controller turns off the converting unit and enables the switching unit when the ~~output of the voltage source~~ output is at least a predetermined value.

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a scaling unit adapted to ~~divide~~dividing the ~~output of the voltage source~~ output by a designated factor.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the scaling unit comprises at least one resistor.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the designated factor is approximately 50%.

16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the controller ~~is adapted to convert~~s the ~~output of the voltage source~~ output to digital data.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the controller comprises an analog-digital converter.

18. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the ~~converter~~converting unit is one of a charge-pump and a DC-DC converter.

19. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the controller is adapted to ~~independently~~ turns off the backlight illumination unit and converting unit ~~independently~~.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the switching unit comprises a FET.

21. (Currently amended) A mobile communication device, comprising:
a display;
a backlight illumination unit adapted to ~~illuminate~~ illuminating the display;
a voltage source adapted to ~~provide~~ providing power to the backlight illumination unit;
a converter, ~~an output of which is~~ providing a constant voltage;
a switch adapted to ~~applying~~ one of the voltage source output and the constant voltage to the backlight illumination unit; and
a controller adapted to ~~turning~~ the converter off and applying the output of the voltage source output to the backlight illumination unit when the ~~output of the voltage source output~~ output is at least a predetermined value and adapted to ~~turning~~ the converter on and applying the constant voltage to the backlight illumination unit when the ~~output of the voltage source output~~ output is below the predetermined value.

22. (Original) The device of claim 21, wherein the predetermined value is approximately 4 Volts DC.

23. (Original) The device of claim 21, wherein the converter is one of a charge pump and a DC-DC converter

24. (Original) The device of claim 21, wherein the backlight illumination unit comprises two or more LEDs.

25. (Original) The device of claim 21, wherein the controller comprises a CPU.

26. (Currently amended) The device of claim 21, wherein the controller comprises a general purpose input/output (GPIO) unit.

27. (Original) The device of claim 21, wherein the display is an LCD.

28. (Currently amended) A method for reducing power consumption in a mobile communication device having a backlight illumination unit powered by a voltage source, the method comprising:

~~providing generating converting means, an output of which is a constant voltage output, and switching means adapted to apply one of the output of the voltage source and the constant voltage to the backlight illumination unit;~~

~~measuring the output voltage of the voltage source output;~~

~~turning the converting means off and applying one of the output of the voltage source output and the constant voltage output to the backlight illumination unit,~~

~~wherein the voltage source output is applied to the illumination unit if the output of the voltage source output is at least a predetermined value and turning the converting means on and applying the output of the converting means constant voltage output is applied to the backlight illumination unit if the output of the voltage source output is below the predetermined value.~~

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 28, further comprising scaling the output of the voltage source output by a designated factor.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the designated factor is approximately 50%.

31. (Currently amended) The method of claim 28, further comprising:
converting the voltage of the ~~voltage source~~ output to digital data; and
comparing the digital data to data corresponding to the predetermined value.

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 28, wherein the constant
voltage output of the ~~converting means~~ is at least the predetermined value.

33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 28, further comprising
turning off the backlight illumination unit independent from the ~~a~~ converting means that
generates the constant voltage output.